

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-8. (Cancelled).

9. (Original) A composition comprising a copper species supported on a porous transition alumina, said composition having a copper to aluminium atomic ratio in the range 0.14 to 0.5 and having, upon reduction of the copper species with hydrogen at 250°C, a copper surface area of at least 60 m<sup>2</sup> per gram of copper.

10. (Original) A composition according to claim 9 having a BET surface area above 80 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

11. (Original) A composition according to claim 9 having a copper to aluminium atomic ratio of at least 0.16.